

# Weighted spanning tree enumerators of color-shifted complexes

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# Spanning trees of $K_n$

## Theorem (Cayley)

$K_n$  has  $n^{n-2}$  spanning trees.

$T \subseteq E(G)$  is a **spanning tree** of  $G$  when:

0. spanning:  $T$  contains all vertices;
1. connected ( $\tilde{H}_0(T) = 0$ )
2. no cycles ( $\tilde{H}_1(T) = 0$ )
3. correct count:  $|T| = n - 1$

If 0. holds, then any two of 1., 2., 3. together imply the third condition.

## Theorem (Cayley-Prüfer)

$$\sum_{T \in ST(K_n)} \text{wt } T = (x_1 \cdots x_n)(x_1 + \cdots + x_n)^{n-2},$$

where  $\text{wt } T = \prod_{e \in T} \text{wt } e = \prod_{e \in T} (\prod_{v \in e} x_v)$ .

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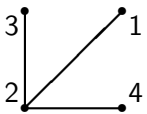
Example ( $K_4$ )

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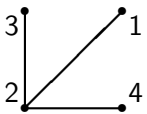
► 4 trees like:  $T =$    $\text{wt } T = (x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) x_2^2$

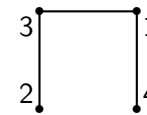
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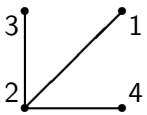
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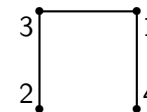
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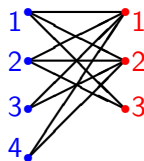
► 12 trees like:  $T =$    $\text{wt } T = (x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) x_1 x_3$

► Total is  $(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4)(x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4)^2$ .

# Ferrers graphs (Ehrenborg-van Willigenburg '04)

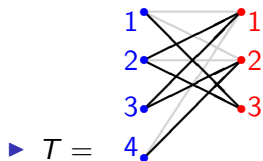
Example ( $\langle\langle 42, 23 \rangle\rangle$ )

	1	2	3	4
1	11	21	31	41
2	12	22	32	42
3	13	23		



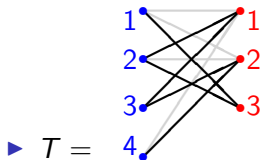


## Spanning trees of Ferrers graphs

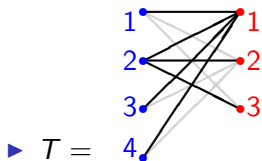


$$\text{wt } T = (1234)(123)23123$$

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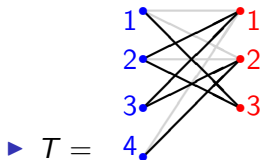


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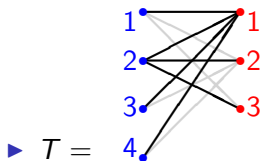


$$\text{wt } T = (1234)(123)2^21^3$$

## Spanning trees of Ferrers graphs



$$\text{wt } T = (1234)(123)23123$$



$$\text{wt } T = (1234)(123)2^21^3$$

▶ Total is  $(1234)(123)(1 + 2 + 3 + 4)(1 + 2)(1 + 2 + 3)(1 + 2)^2$

## Theorem

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Theorem (Ehrenborg-van Willigenburg)

*This works in general*

# Laplacian

Theorem (Kirchoff's Matrix-Tree)

$G$  has  $|\det L_r(G)|$  spanning trees

**Definition** The Laplacian matrix of graph  $G$ , denoted by  $L(G)$ .



# Laplacian

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**Definition** The Laplacian matrix of graph  $G$ , denoted by  $L(G)$ .

Defn 1:  $L(G) = D(G) - A(G)$

$$D(G) = \text{diag}(\text{deg } v_1, \dots, \text{deg } v_n)$$

$A(G)$  = adjacency matrix

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Defn 2:  $L(G) = \partial(G)\partial(G)^T$

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# Laplacian

Theorem (Kirchoff's Matrix-Tree)

$G$  has  $|\det L_r(G)|$  spanning trees

**Definition** The **reduced Laplacian** matrix of graph  $G$ , denoted by  $L_r(G)$ .

Defn 1:  $L(G) = D(G) - A(G)$

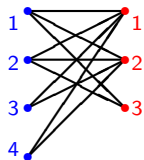
$$D(G) = \text{diag}(\text{deg } v_1, \dots, \text{deg } v_n)$$

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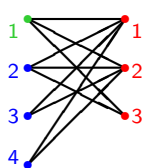
“**Reduced**”: remove rows/columns corresponding to any one vertex

Example  $\langle 42, 23 \rangle$ 

$$\partial =$$

	11	12	13	21	22	23	31	32	41	42
1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1
1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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	11	12	13	21	22	23	31	32	41	42
1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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3	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	-1
1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad L_r = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Example  $\langle 42, 23 \rangle$ 

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1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad L_r = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\det(L_r) = 96$ , the number of spanning trees of  $\langle 42, 23 \rangle$ .

# Weighted Matrix-Tree Theorem

$$\sum_{T \in ST(G)} \text{wt } T = |\det \hat{L}_r(G)|,$$

where  $\hat{L}_r(G)$  is **reduced** weighted **Laplacian**.

Defn 1:  $\hat{L}(G) = \hat{D}(G) - \hat{A}(G)$

$$\hat{D}(G) = \text{diag}(\hat{\text{deg}}v_1, \dots, \hat{\text{deg}}v_n)$$

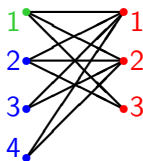
$$\hat{\text{deg}}v_i = \sum_{v_i v_j \in E} x_i x_j$$

$\hat{A}(G)$  = adjacency matrix  
(entry  $x_i x_j$  for edge  $v_i v_j$ )

Defn 2:  $\hat{L}(G) = \partial(G)B(G)\partial(G)^T$

$\partial(G)$  = incidence matrix

$B(G)$  diagonal, indexed by edges,  
entry  $\pm x_i x_j$  for edge  $v_i v_j$

Example ( $\langle 42, 23 \rangle$ )

$$\hat{L}_r = \begin{pmatrix} 2(1+2+3) & 0 & 0 & -21 & -22 & -23 \\ 0 & 3(1+2) & 0 & -31 & -32 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4(1+2) & -41 & -42 & 0 \\ -21 & -31 & -41 & 1(1+2+3+4) & 0 & 0 \\ -22 & -32 & -42 & 0 & 2(1+2+3+4) & 0 \\ -23 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3(1+2) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det \hat{L}_r = (1234)(123)(1+2+3+4)(1+2)(1+2+3)(1+2)^2$$



## Simplicial spanning trees of $K_n^d$ [Kalai, '83]

Let  $K_n^d$  denote the complete  $d$ -dimensional simplicial complex on  $n$  vertices.  $\Upsilon \subseteq K_n^d$  is a **simplicial spanning tree** of  $K_n^d$  when:

0.  $\Upsilon_{(d-1)} = K_n^{d-1}$  (“spanning”);
  1.  $\tilde{H}_{d-1}(\Upsilon; \mathbb{Z})$  is a finite group (“connected”);
  2.  $\tilde{H}_d(\Upsilon; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$  (“acyclic”);
  3.  $|\Upsilon| = \binom{n-1}{d}$  (“count”).
- ▶ If 0. holds, then any two of 1., 2., 3. together imply the third.
  - ▶ When  $d = 1$ , coincides with usual definition.

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### Example

$$n = 5, d = 2 : \Upsilon = \{123, 124, 125, 134, 135, 245\}$$

# Counting simplicial spanning trees of $K_n^d$

**Conjecture** [Bolker '76]

$$\sum_{\tau \in SST(K_n^d)} = n \binom{n-2}{d}$$

Counting simplicial spanning trees of  $K_n^d$ **Theorem** [Kalai '83]

$$\tau(K_n^d) = \sum_{\Upsilon \in SST(K_n^d)} |\tilde{H}_{d-1}(\Upsilon)|^2 = n \binom{n-2}{d}$$

Weighted simplicial spanning trees of  $K_n^d$ 

As before,

$$\text{wt } \Upsilon = \prod_{F \in \Upsilon} \text{wt } F = \prod_{F \in \Upsilon} \left( \prod_{v \in F} x_v \right)$$

Example

$$\begin{aligned} \Upsilon &= \{123, 124, 125, 134, 135, 245\} \\ \text{wt } \Upsilon &= x_1^5 x_2^4 x_3^3 x_4^3 x_5^3 \end{aligned}$$

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## Theorem (Kalai, '83)

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\tau}(K_n^d) &:= \sum_{T \in \text{SST}(K_n^d)} |\tilde{H}_{d-1}(T)|^2 (\text{wt } T) \\ &= (x_1 \cdots x_n)^{\binom{n-2}{d-1}} (x_1 + \cdots + x_n)^{\binom{n-2}{d}} \end{aligned}$$

# Simplicial spanning trees of arbitrary simplicial complexes

Let  $\Delta$  be a  $d$ -dimensional simplicial complex.

$\Upsilon \subseteq \Delta$  is a **simplicial spanning tree** of  $\Delta$  when:

0.  $\Upsilon_{(d-1)} = \Delta_{(d-1)}$  (“spanning”);
  1.  $\tilde{H}_{d-1}(\Upsilon; \mathbb{Z})$  is a finite group (“connected”);
  2.  $\tilde{H}_d(\Upsilon; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$  (“acyclic”);
  3.  $f_d(\Upsilon) = f_d(\Delta) - \tilde{\beta}_d(\Delta) + \tilde{\beta}_{d-1}(\Delta)$  (“count”).
- ▶ If 0. holds, then any two of 1., 2., 3. together imply the third.
  - ▶ When  $d = 1$ , coincides with usual definition.

# Simplicial Matrix-Tree Theorem

Theorem (D.-Klivans-Martin, '09)

$$\hat{\tau}(\Delta) = \frac{|\tilde{H}_{d-2}(\Delta; \mathbb{Z})|^2}{|\tilde{H}_{d-2}(\Gamma; \mathbb{Z})|^2} \det \hat{L}_{\Gamma},$$

where

▶  $\Gamma \in SST(\Delta_{(d-1)})$



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- ▶ *reduced Laplacian*  $L_{\Gamma} = \partial_{\Gamma} \partial_{\Gamma}^T$

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- ▶ *Weighted version: Multiply column  $F$  of  $\partial$  by  $x_F$*

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where

- ▶  $\Gamma \in SST(\Delta_{(d-1)})$
- ▶  $\partial_\Gamma =$  restriction of  $\partial_d$  to faces not in  $\Gamma$
- ▶ reduced Laplacian  $L_\Gamma = \partial_\Gamma \partial_\Gamma^T$
- ▶ Weighted version: Multiply column  $F$  of  $\partial$  by  $x_F$

**Note:** The  $|\tilde{H}_{d-2}|$  terms are often trivial.

## Example: Octahedron

- ▶ Vertices  $1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2$ .
- ▶ Facets  $111, 112, 121, 122, 211, 212, 221, 222$ ,
- ▶  $\Gamma = 11, 12, 11, 12, 22$  spanning tree of 1-skeleton, so remove (rows and columns corresponding to) those edges from weighted Laplacian.
- ▶  $\det \hat{L}_\Gamma = (121212)^3(1+2)(1+2)(1+2)$ .

# Color-shifted complexes

## Definition (Babson-Novik, '96)

A **color-shifted complex** is a simplicial complex with:

- ▶ vertex set  $V_1 \dot{\cup} \dots \dot{\cup} V_r$  ( $V_i$  is set of vertices of color  $i$ );
- ▶  $|V_i| = n_i$ ;
- ▶ every facet contains one vertex of each color; and
- ▶ if  $v < w$  are vertices of the same color, then you can always replace  $w$  by  $v$ .

**Note:**  $r = 2$  is Ferrers graphs

## Example

Octahedron is  $\langle 222 \rangle$

Example  $\langle 235, 324, 333 \rangle$ 

facets

111	112	113	114	115
121	122	123	124	125
131	132	133	134	135
211	212	213	214	215
221	222	223	224	225
231	232	233	234	235
311	312	313	314	
321	322	323	324	
331	332	333		



Example  $\langle 235, 324, 333 \rangle$ 

facets					ridges				
111	112	113	114	115	11	12	13		
121	122	123	124	125	21	22	23		
131	132	133	134	135	31	32	33		
211	212	213	214	215	11	12	13	14	15
221	222	223	224	225	21	22	23	24	25
231	232	233	234	235	31	32	33	34	
311	312	313	314		11	12	13	14	15
321	322	323	324		21	22	23	24	25
331	332	333			31	32	33	34	35

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231	232	233	234	235

311	312	313	314
321	322	323	324
331	332	333	

reduced ridges

11	12	13
21	22	23
31	32	33

11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25
31	32	33	34	

11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25
31	32	33	34	35

Enumeration:  $\hat{\tau}(\langle 235, 324, 333 \rangle)$

$$\begin{aligned} & (1^7 2^7 3^6)(1+2+3)^5(1+2)^3 \\ & \times (1^7 2^6 3^6)(1+2+3)^8(1+2) \\ & \times (1^5 2^5 3^5 4^5 5^4)(1+\dots+5)^2(1+\dots+4)(1+\dots+3) \end{aligned}$$

Enumeration:  $\hat{\tau}(\langle 235, 324, 333 \rangle)$

$$\times (1^5 2^5 3^5 4^5 5^4)(1 + \cdots + 5)^2(1 + \cdots + 4)(1 + \cdots + 3)$$

Enumeration:  $\hat{\tau}(\langle 235, 324, 333 \rangle)$

$$\times (1^5 2^5 3^5 4^5 5^4)$$

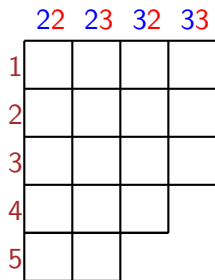
11	12	13
21	22	23
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11	12	13	14	15
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Enumeration:  $\hat{\tau}(\langle 235, 324, 333 \rangle)$ 

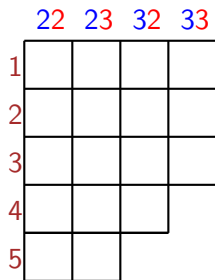
$$\times (1 + \cdots + 5)^2 (1 + \cdots + 4) (1 + \cdots + 3)$$



Enumeration:  $\hat{\tau}(\langle 235, 324, 333 \rangle)$

$$\times (1^5 2^5 3^5 4^5 5^4)(1 + \dots + 5)^2(1 + \dots + 4)(1 + \dots + 3)$$

11	12	13		
21	22	23		
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Theorem (Aalipour-D.)

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## Remark

The **codimension-1 spanning tree** will be a different tree for each color. For each color's factors, treat that color as "last".

**Example:**  $r = 4$  (2-dimensional spanning tree): Start with **1**, and attach to every edge with no **blue** vertices. Then use **1**, and attach to all edges using a **blue** non-**1** vertex with a non-**red** vertex. Finally use **1** with edges with a **blue** non-**1** vertex with a **red** non-**1** vertex.

Proof (via example  $\langle 235, 324, 333 \rangle$ )

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 22(1 + \cdot + 5) & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 23(1 + \cdot + 5) & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 22(1 + \cdot + 4) & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 33(1 + \cdot + 3) & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= (2^2 3^2 2^2 3^2 \cdots) \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \cdot + 5 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 1 + \cdot + 5 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 1 + \cdot + 4 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 + \cdot + 3 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

By “identification of factors” (Martin-Reiner, '03), to show  $(1 + \cdot + 5)^2$  is a factor of the det, just show nullspace of this matrix  $\geq 2$ , when  $1 + \cdot + 5 = 0$ .